

Muni View

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Coordinator's Corner

It's hard to believe that I have been in this position for almost a year. It has certainly been a wonderful experience. I continue to enjoy meeting each of you and getting to know you all better at each seminar.

Enclosed with this mailing is the 2002 Municipal Court questionnaire. Please complete and return this questionnaire by June 30. If you have any questions about the questionnaire please feel free to contact our office.

As some of you know, I have been attempting to establish a ListServ that will allow Judges to post municipal court questions via email. All judges who choose to be members of the ListServ could then view this posting and those judge could in turn email their views on the issue at hand. Unfortunately, due to the effects of the budget situation, this project, as well as others within the court system, is basically on hold until the budget situation is resolved. I believe the ListServ is an important project and I will continue to investigate other options which would allow us get one up and running as soon as possible.

New Judges/New Courts/Resignations

Twelve new judges attended the Orientation Seminar held in Wisconsin Rapids on May 9th. Two of the judges were from newly created courts, seven were judges who just won election in May and the remaining three had been appointed after May 2001 and have been sitting judges for 9 to 10 months.

The two new courts and judges are:

Cities of Neenah & Menasha,
James B. Gunz, Judge.
Shawano, David Winter, Judge.

The 7 newly elected judges are:

Patrick Berigan won election in the City of Muskego. He replaces Gerald Boisits.
Phil Chavez won election in the Village of Mt. Horeb/Town of Primrose. He replaces **Leslie Kramer** who moved out of the district.

Joseph Cook won election in the City of Waukesha.

Anthony Machi won election in the Village of Greendale. He replaces **Thomas Duggan** who retired.

Sandra Tarver won election to the Village of Shorewood Hills. She replaced **Bill Ganser** who retired.

Thomas Vogt won election in the Village of Clinton.

Robert K. Weber won election in the City of Racine. He replaces **Robert Michelson**.

As noted in the most previous Muni View, the three judges that were appointed after May 2001 are:
Thomas Bellovary, Town of Dover
Herman Lee King, Village of Belleville
J. Joanne Walter, Village of Viola

There have been two new judges appointed since May's Orientation:
Virginia Newcomb in the Town of Oakland and **Carl Greene** in the Village of Crivitz.

**WELCOME TO ALL
OF OUR NEW JUDGES!**

Resignations

Robert Parent has resigned as the Municipal Judge for the Town of Bellevue. A replacement has not yet been appointed.

Brad Schalburg has resigned as the Municipal Judge for the Town of Oakland.

Louis Butler was elected to Milwaukee County Circuit Court and will be taking that seat on August 1.

Abolished Courts

It is with much regret that we inform you that the Villages of Buchanan and Westby abolished their municipal courts effective April 30, 2002. We wish the very best of luck to **Judges Nancy Bekx and Randy Dahlen**.

In Memoriam

Edward A. Eickstead, Municipal Judge of the Town of Crivitz died this past May. Judge Eickstead served as the Municipal Judge from 1983 – 1986 and then served again from 1994 until his resignation in April of 2002.

Seminars

93 Judges attended the **Traffic Seminar** held March 7 & 8, 2002, in Lake Geneva. The seminar received positive reviews and everyone seemed to enjoy the accommodations at the Grand Geneva Resort.

The Orientation Committee did another outstanding job of presenting this year's **Orientation & Institute**. The Orientation Seminar was held May 8, and the Institute was held May 9 & 10 at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids. Both the new judges and the veteran judges in attendance had many positive comments regarding the program and the faculty. My thanks to the Orientation Committee for their hard work and ongoing dedication to Municipal Judge Education.

The next seminar is the Trial Seminar, July 18 & 19, 2002, at the Ramada Inn in Eau Claire. There is still space available but the registration deadline is June 21.

This year's Special Topic Seminar will be held September 5 & 6, 2002, at the Valley Inn in Neenah. One day of this two-day seminar will be devoted to Drunk Driving and the second day will cover Juvenile Issues. More information will be forthcoming.

Correction On Traffic Seminar Ethics Credits

The agenda for the Traffic Seminar held March 7 & 8, 2002, erroneously stated that the seminar was worth 1.25 CLE Ethics credits for attorneys. The proper amount of ethics credits for this seminar is **1.5**.

Need An Interpreter On Short Notice?

More and more often the question has come up as to where or how Municipal Courts can obtain interpreters. One option that has been used successfully by some municipal courts is LanguageLine Services. LanguageLine Services provides over-the-phone interpretation services in more than 140 languages. Interpreters are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year. The costs for these services vary. To obtain additional information call 1-800-752-0093, ext. 196 or e-mail at generalinfo@LanguageLine.com or by visiting their website at www.language.com

New Laws

Act 75 – Underage Tobacco Sales Compliance Checks. Allows municipal law enforcement agencies to conduct unannounced underage tobacco sales compliance checks of retail establishments under certain specified conditions. Former law only allowed law enforcement agencies that had contracted with the Department of Health and Family Services to conduct such compliance checks. Became effective April 30, 2002.

Act 84 – OAR/OAS. The final section of Act 84, pertaining to persons arrested for Operating While Revoked (OAR) or Operating While Suspended (OAS) became effective May 1, 2002. As a result, all Operating After Revocation charges are criminal and all Operating While Suspended charges are civil.

These changes are reflected on pages 23 and 75 of the 2002 Revised Uniform State Traffic Deposit Schedule.

Oath Of Office Reminder

Our office is still missing the Oaths of Office from a number of our Municipal Judges. Please remember that Sec. 755.03, Wis. Stats. states that "No Judge may act as such until his or her oath and bond have been filed as required by s. 19.01(4) c and the requirements of sub (2) have been complied with."

We have also noted that a number of the oaths we have received do not contain the specific language prescribed by Sec. 755.02 & Sec. 757.02(1), Wis. Stats. The proper oath is as set forth below:

State of Wisconsin,
County of . . .

I, the undersigned, who have been elected (or appointed) to the office of Municipal Court Judge, but have not yet entered upon the duties thereof, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin; that I will administer justice without respect to persons and will faithfully and

impartially discharge the duties of said office to the best of my ability. So help me God.

. . . (Signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this . . . day of . . . , . . . (year)

. . . (Signature)

Please review the oath language set forth in Sec. 757.02(1) and compare it to the Oath you have submitted to our office to see if you are in compliance.



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